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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY Rumania

DATE DISTR. 15 October 1952

SUBJECT The Fishing Industry Center

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THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

1. The Fishing Industry Center, located at 102 Calea Lipscani, Bucharest, is the central administration of all enterprises connected with fishing and the processing of the catch, including the preserving of fish and its sale in shops and restaurants. The Center belongs to the Ministry of Food, which imports the necessary equipment in consultation with the Superior Planning Commission. Boards and wood for fish traps and tanks are supplied by the IMPEIL, and nets, hooks and fishing lines are imported from Holland, Belgium, Sweden, and Norway.
2. Fishing was under government control even before the Soviet regime, and the fishing districts were leased to private fishermen or companies who, after nationalization, were forced to form cooperatives. The most important fishing centers are in the Danube Delta and the Black Sea ports.
3. The first government organization dealing with fishing was Rompescaria. This was later changed to Compescaria and, since 1951, has been known as Sectorul Industriei Piscaresti. Compescaria has remained as a department dealing with distribution through shops and restaurants. It has canning factories at: Kalla, Timisoara; Creierul, Galati; Cefalul, Bucharest; Partisanul, Tulcea; 21 December, Sulina. About 10 tons of fish are processed daily in each of these factories, all for export to the USSR.
4. Up to 1951, between 80 and 100 tons of fish were sent daily to the Bucharest markets. Since that time, most of the catch has been canned for export to the USSR, and only about 15 or 20 tons reach the local market. No big fish are sold and of the tinned fish, only about 250,000 small tins of anchovies are sold on the local market.

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- 2 -

5. The Center has 12 tugs, of approximately five tons each, with Diesel engines, which tow fishing boats to and from the ports. One of these motor vessels is stationed in Sulina; one in Oltenita; two in St. Gheorghe; two in Galati, three in Tulcea; and three in Constanta.
6. In 1951, the Center received a modern ocean-going steamer of 20,000 tons from the USSR named OCTOMBRIE ROSU.¹ This ship works in the Tulcea district, where the fish is canned and sent to Odessa.

1. Comment. This may refer to the SS OCTOMBRIE ROSU, a 2,035 ton steamer which was acquired in 1950 by Rumania from Panama.

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